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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/661,292	09/12/2003	Harrison Robert Murphy	2138.001B	7437

23405 7590 11/30/2006

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5 COLUMBIA CIRCLE
ALBANY, NY 12203

EXAMINER

CONLEY, FREDRICK C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3673

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/661,292		MURPHY ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	FREDRICK C. CONLEY		3673	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3,21-26,28-30,33-35 and 39-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3,21-26,28-30,33-35 and 39-49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 21-26, 28-30, and 33-49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,718,583 to Diaz in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,794,037 to Hosoda et al. and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 3,493,980 to Haller.

Claims 3, 28-30, Diaz discloses an open flame resistant mattress comprising a fire barrier textile at least partially enclosing a core comprising a foam material, said fire barrier textile is defined by two distinct fabric layers: (1) a fire barrier fabric layer 20 and (2) a thermally insulating fabric layer 14, said fire barrier fabric layer comprising at least one char-forming flame-retardant fiber, such as an aramid fiber (col. 3 lines 34-49). Diaz fails to disclose the thermally insulating layer having one char-forming flame retardant fiber. Hosoda discloses a fabric having at least one char-forming flame retardant fiber, such as flame retardant viscose fibers (col. 2 lines 43-55). It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to employ a flame retardant fiber as taught by Hosoda (col. 2 lines 43-45) in order to impart a high level of flame proofness to the thermally insulating layer of Diaz. Diaz also fails to disclose an outermost decorative fabric layer. Haller discloses a mattress having an outermost decorative fabric layer (12,14,16) with upholstery layers disposed between a core and

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the outermost decorative fabric layer (col. 3 lines 30-54). It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to employ an outermost covering layer as taught by Haller wherein the fire barrier textile layer is disposed between the outermost layer and the core in order to provide a sanitary mattress (col. 1 lines 25-30).

Claims 39-41, Diaz, as modified, discloses all of the Applicant's claimed limitations except for the mattress meeting the smoldering resistance standard, resisting an open flame under conditions of California TB 117, and California TB 603, wherein the mattress has a maximum heat release of less than 200 kW and a total energy release of less than 25 MJ in the first ten minutes of the test. It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the mattress resist an open flame under conditions as stated above in order for the mattress of Diaz to meet the standards for institutional mattresses sold in the State of California.

Claims 21-25, 33-35, and 42-47, Diaz discloses an open flame resistant mattress comprising a fire barrier textile at least partially enclosing a core of said mattress, said fire barrier textile is defined by two distinct fabric layers: (1) a non-woven fire barrier fabric layer 20 and (2) a thermally insulating fabric layer 14 comprised of a nylon fabric, said fire barrier fabric layer comprising at least one char-forming flame-retardant fiber, such as an aramid fiber (col. 3 lines 34-49), wherein said fire barrier fabric layer is attached to said thermally insulating fabric layer by stitching (col. 3 lines 34-44). Diaz fails to disclose the thermally insulating layer having one char-forming flame retardant

fiber. Hosoda discloses a fabric having at least one char-forming flame retardant fiber, such as flame retardant viscose fibers (col. 2 lines 43-55). It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to employ a flame retardant fiber as taught by Hosoda (col. 2 lines 43-45) in order to impart a high level of flame proofness to the thermally insulating later of Diaz. Diaz fails to disclose the mattress resisting an open flame under conditions of California TB 117. It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the mattress resist an open flame under conditions as stated above in order for the mattress of Diaz to meet the standards for institutional mattresses sold in the State of California.

With regards to claim 26, Diaz, as modified, discloses all of the Applicant's claimed limitations wherein the thermally insulating fabric layer comprises a blend of flame retardant viscous and other fibers (Hosoda)(col. 2 lines 43-55). Diaz fails to disclose employing modacrylic fibers. It is considered obvious to choose from a plethora of known materials for use in bedding and it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to employ a modacrylic fiber in order to provide the blended fiber product as taught by Hsoda (col. 2 lines 48-50).

Claim 48-49, Diaz, as modified, discloses all of the Applicant's claimed limitations according to claim 31, wherein Diaz illustrates that it is well known to employ a mattress foundation with the mattress (fig. 4). It is well known that upholstery is employed over the cores of mattresses and mattress foundations such as box springs and it would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

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employ a fire barrier textile over the mattress foundation in order to provide a fire retardant foundation.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 3, 21-26, 28-30, and 33-41 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

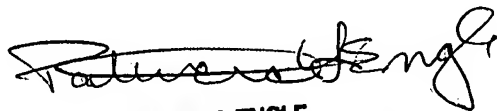
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to FREDRICK C. CONLEY whose telephone number is 571-272-7040. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, PATRICIA L. ENGLE can be reached on 571-272-6660. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

FC



PATRICIA ENGLE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600
11-27-06